

PATENT

#9
Election
8/1/02IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE
(Case No. 01-057)

In the Application of:

Chevalier

JUL 22 2002

Serial No.: 09/744,659

Examiner: U. Winkler

Filing Date: April 18, 2001

Group Art Unit: 1648

For: Trimer of HIV env
Gene Expression Product

Confirmation No.: 3396

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JUL 25 2002

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RESPONSE TO THE OFFICE ACTION MAILED JUNE 18, 2002

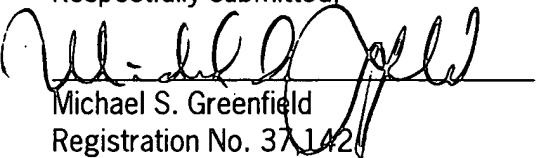
Box Non-Fee Amendment
 Commissioner for Patents
 Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

Responsive to the Office Action mailed June 18, 2002, the applicant elects Group I with traverse. The applicant respectfully traverses because all claims share the same special technical feature, HIV gp160 trimers. All the claims are directed to composition or methods relating to HIV gp160 trimers. The prior art (including U.S. 6,140,059, cited by the Examiner) does not disclose purified trimers or methods of making them, as presently claimed. In view of the foregoing, the applicant submits that restriction is improper and respectfully requests its reconsideration and withdrawal.

If there are any questions or comments regarding this Response or application, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned attorney as indicated below.

Respectfully submitted,

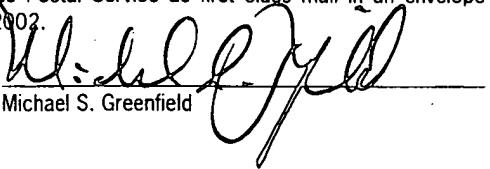

 Michael S. Greenfield
 Registration No. 37142

McDonnell Boehnen Hulbert & Berghoff
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 Chicago, IL 60606

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING (37 C.F.R. 1.8a)

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to the: Commissioner for Patents, Washington D.C. 20231, on July 15, 2002.

Date: July 15, 2002


 Michael S. Greenfield